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JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 MAY 2005

[10191/4227]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : HAMMER et al.  
Serial No. : To Be Assigned  
Filed : Herewith  
For : VALVE ACTUATOR FOR OPERATING A GAS EXCHANGE VALVE OF AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE  
Art Unit : To Be Assigned  
Examiner : To Be Assigned

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND**  
**37 C.F.R. § 1.125 SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION STATEMENT**

SIR:

Please amend the above-identified application before examination, as set forth below.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.

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